

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P59089F-WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB2005/000141	International filing date (day/month/year) 19/01/2005	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 19/01/2004
Applicant PATTEMORE, Michael		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

A SEAL FOR A STUFFING BOX OF A GLAND

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this International search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. _____

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB2005/000141

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 F16J15/18 F16J15/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 F16J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 1 356 393 A (NOLTE CARL P) 19 October 1920 (1920-10-19) the whole document	1-6, 10, 14, 16
A	EP 0 054 352 A (FINRECO LIMITED) 23 June 1982 (1982-06-23) page 4, line 5 - page 5, line 28; figures	1-5, 8-11, 13-17
A	US 1 991 893 A (FLICK ZENO E ET AL) 19 February 1935 (1935-02-19) page 1, column 2, line 21 - page 2, column 1, line 30; figures	1-5, 10, 11, 14-17
A	US 1 421 356 A (DENTON FREDERICK GEORGE ET AL) 27 June 1922 (1922-06-27) the whole document	1-5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 16, 17

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- 'L' document which may throw doubt on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- 'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- 'P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- 'T' later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- 'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- '&' document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

5 April 2005

Date of mailing of the International search report

27/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel: (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Sbaihi, M

10/586619

IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 19 JUL 2006

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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Present claims relate to an extremely large number of possible products/methods (a "seal" in general). Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the products/method claimed (packing material for a stuffing box). In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible.

As a typical example the EC- Class F16j15/34B4B4 (Sealings / between relatively moving surfaces/ with slip-ring pressed against a more or less radial face on one member / and characterised by parts or details relating to lubrication, cooling or venting of the seal / with means for feeding fluid directly to the face) is cited, from which most of the documents comprise all the characteristics of the invention, because usually the slip ring (track) is detachably secured to the (mechanical/face) seal.

Also due to this broad definition, a lack of unity might appear between the subject-matter of claim 1 (product) and claim 17 (method); for instance the method of claim 17 has no common feature/concept with the typical example of seals given (mechanical/face seals).

Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the products/methods concerning "a packing material for a stuffing box of a gland"

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210

3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB2005/000141

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 1356393	A	19-10-1920	NONE			
EP 0054352	A	23-06-1982		AT 19815 T AU 551460 B2 AU 7710081 A CA 1170583 A1 DE 3174640 D1 EP 0054352 A1 ZA 8200005 A		15-05-1986 01-05-1986 20-05-1982 10-07-1984 19-06-1986 23-06-1982 29-12-1982
US 1991893	A	19-02-1935	NONE			
US 1421356	A	27-06-1922	NONE			